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Pronounced by Connoisseurs to be the
BEST BRAND in the FAR EAST.

Per Dozen \$15.00

The following Blends are also recom-
mended, and are unsurpassed in quality:—

A.—THORNE'S BLEND... \$10.50

B.—GLENORCHY, MELLOW

BLEND, a fine 'Soda'

Whisky of great age... 10.80

C.—ABERLOUR-GLENLIVET 12.00

D.—H.R.D. BLEND of the Finest

Old Malt Scotch Whiskies 14.40

A. S. WATSON & CO.
LIMITED.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

BIRTH.

On the 22nd July, at H.M. Consulate,
Fochow, the wife of P. E. O'Brien, Esq.,
H.M. Consul, of a daughter. [1895]

DEATH.

On the 23rd July, at 11.55 p.m., at Kennedy-
town Hospital, Miss Wilson Brownhill, aged
38 years, widow of the late John Brownhill,
Superintending Engineer, Messrs. Bradley & Co.,
and daughter of John Wilson, Boness, Scotland. [1862]

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VOGES ROAD, C1
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

HONGKONG, 25th July, 1901

PRINCE CHUN, who will land this morning in Hongkong from the German mail steamer *Bayern*, will not, in the circumstances of his present mission, be received with the honours which would otherwise be called for by his eminent rank. As was felt in Shanghai, until the mission of apology to Germany for the murder of Baron von Ketteler has been carried out, any public demonstration would be unsuitable. Moreover, even were this not so, the brief stay of the *Bayern* in our harbour would render any festivities on a large scale impossible. It is probable that the Prince after his formal call at Government House will be entertained at a luncheon there, but whether he will make any other calls cannot yet be said. We learn that the Chinese Club propose to invite His Imperial Highness to a tea in his honour on their premises, but it is not known of course whether he will be able to accept the invitation. Certain Chinese deputations will call on Prince Chun, on board the *Bayern* as early as possible, and among these will be a party from Canton, representing the leading officials there, a number of leading Chinese from Hongkong of "mandarin" rank, and a deputation from the Imperial Maritime Customs. Apart from these courtesies, it is not probable that the ordinary course of events will be disturbed. The Chinese, we believe, will not attempt anything in the way of decoration, and the Prince will not have an extraordinary guard of honour. What would in ordinary circumstances be the occasion for a great display of international courtesy must, owing to the motives of the Prince's journey to Berlin, be observed in very sober fashion. When the mission has been accomplished, matters will be different, and, as we already know, Prince Chun is likely to visit the principal European countries before his return home. On the latter part of his journey he will no doubt meet with a

more adequate reception. Report speaks well of the Prince. In appearance he is said to be very like his brother the Emperor Kwang Hsu, but he is somewhat taller and darker. In our Shanghai contemporary, the *North-China Daily News*, he is thus described as he landed in Shanghai:—"He was 'certainly a prepossessing figure. First, 'he is young—just out of his teens—a 'clean-run, wholesome-looking youth. If 'anything he is slightly under the average 'height, but apparently well-knit, holding 'himself well, and looking honestly and 'straight. He was a ready and attractive 'smile, and when later in the day he 'received callers, he impressed everyone 'with a very engaging manner and a very 'evident desire to please." As will be remembered, Prince Chun has been mentioned as a probable successor to his brother's throne, but from a Chinese point of view this would not be regarded as acceptable. Nevertheless he ranks, of course, very high among princes of the blood, and at any other time his visit to Hongkong would be an event of no little importance.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Netherland Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the Funds of the Hospitals:—G. Foxwick & Co., \$10.

The *Mercury* in a leading article advocates the establishment in Shanghai of a Society for the Prevention of Brutality to the Chinese. A similar society seems also to be wanted in Tientsin.

The former Netherlands Consul for Shanghai, Mr. Van Walree, will not return to his post. He has left the government service and taken the management of the Nederlandse Handel Maatschappij.

Owing to the South Gate at High Island Barrier, Blenheim Passage, having been carried away by a collision, mariners in the Canton district are notified that the green light is now shown from the masthead of a junk moored as near as possible in the same position as the former light.

Mr. F. G. Figg, First Assistant, Hongkong Observatory, reports as follows:—"The timball at Kowloon Point is out of order and cannot be dropped. A new ball, now under construction, will be ready in the course of a few days. Chronometers may, in the meantime, be compared at the Observatory, if desired."

A Shanghai exchange says that Prince Chun, while in Shanghai, expressed great surprise and admiration at the broad streets of the city, the gigantic buildings on the Bund and elsewhere, the apparently ceaseless activity and traffic which he saw around him, and above all the cleanliness of the streets of Shanghai. We are afraid that the last point will not rouse Prince Chun's admiration when he comes ashore here this morning.

The *Universal Gazette* gives the following route proposed to be taken by the Chinese Court when it leaves Hsia for Peking:—From Hsia by land to Liuyankou, a district under the jurisdiction of Kaifeng, Honan; then by boat across the Yellow River to the left bank; from thence by land to Tsakou, which belongs to the district magistracy of Tsinhsien; then take boat from thence by the Wei river to Tschou, Shantung, on the Grand Canal. From Tschou by the Grand Canal to Tientsin, Chihli, and from thence by rail to Peking.

The Russian authorities are now proceeding to take up their settlement in Tientsin, and have invited all foreign holders of title-deeds to submit their documents for inspection and registration, says the *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent. At the present moment, except a few Russian subjects who have recently invested in land in the locality, there are very few foreign holders—the railway, mining, and steamer companies and one British partnership, not above half-a-dozen in all, and these all riparian owners. Other prospective concession-holders have so far done little or nothing, with the exception of the Italians.

Mr. Elias Hyem Joseph, of the firm formerly known as Jordan and Joseph, broken and commission agents, died suddenly yesterday morning at his residence, No. 13, Seymour Terrace. Deceased had for many years been employed by Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons and Co., whose employ he left to enter into partnership with the late Mr. Paul Jordan, in a brokerage and commission agency business under the style of Jordan and Joseph. The late Mr. Joseph during his lengthy business career in this colony had made hosts of friends, who all sincerely sympathise with his widow in her bereavement.

L'Echo de Chine notes the arrival at Shanghai of M. Bona d'Anty, French Consul at Chungking, and praises the courage and tact he displayed in the troubled times last year, remaining at his post when his English colleague went down to Ichang. The *N.-C. Daily News* comments on this as follows:—"Tact" is hardly the word which the English colleague, Mr. Michie Fraser, would apply to it. According to him, M. Bona d'Anty sent all his archives and other things on board the *Pioneer* and made Mr. Fraser believe that he was coming too, and only at the last moment changed his mind. The archives, etc., were taken down to Ichang and sent back in the *Szechuan*, in which they went to the bottom of the river.

H. M. cruiser *Ida* arrived here yesterday from Kobe. The transport *Conning* arrived from Celebta.

A post office has been opened by the German authorities at Kaimi, the present terminus of the Shantung railway. It is also rumoured that German post-offices are to be opened at Canton, Swatow and Amoy.

The following paragraph from the *P. & T. Times* is somewhat obscure:—"The Lieut. General Commanding having sanctioned an exchange of uniforms with the Russians, a complete sample outfit of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers and Hongkong Regiments have been issued to the Russian Military Authorities."

H.M.S. *Glory*, with Sir Cyprian Bridge on board, is on his way here from the North, and is expected to arrive about the 1st prox. Sir Cyprian Bridge pays his first visit to the southern part of the Station since succeeding Sir Edward Seymour, G.C.B., as Admiral of the Fleet on the China Station.

A sailor from the French flag ship *Redoubtable*, now in harbour, the *Nagasaki Press* says, who severely wounded a fellow-sailor by stabbing him with a knife in a bar-room at Hirobaba on the 3rd inst., was brought before the District Court on Saturday morning. The accused was found guilty and sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

It is stated from the North that the 6th Burma Regiment is to be stationed at Tientsin from about the middle of next month, while on the vacation of the West Village by this regiment, the Hongkong Regiment will take up its abode there, the officers occupying the Taotai's House in Taku Road as their quarters and mess.

The Marshal of the U. S. Consulate at Tientsin arrived at Shanghai on the 18th inst. having in his charge three Americans who had been convicted and sentenced to four years' imprisonment for having looted a pawnshop in the interior. The prisoners will undergo their sentence at the U. S. Consular gaol at Shanghai.

The Chin se cruiser *Haiyang*, formerly the flagship of Admiral Yi, which was taken by the Allies last summer off Taku, has been restored to the Chinese. Admiral Yi is at present in Peking, and is doing his utmost to get back the four torpedo boats which were taken by the British—one being kept (the *Taku*, now in reserve here), and one each turned over to the Germans, Russians, and French.

Messrs. Bannard & Co. write to us from Newchwang on the 13th inst.:—"During the last few days more than 4,000 river boats laden with grain and pulses have arrived from the interior, and prices have fallen considerably. We quote: Bean cakes per 10 pieces, Tls. 7; Bean oil per pial Tls. 6; Beans per shoe or tan of 3 piculs—Yellow, Tls. 5.50 to Tls. 5.80 and Tls. 4.90 to Tls. 5; Green, Tls. 5.86 and Tls. 5.42; White, Tls. 5.45 and Tls. 4.85; Black Tls. 4.12 and Tls. 4.02. 120,000 piculs remain unsold, and a further decline may be expected. Tonnage is consequently required, but rates offered are as yet too low for business, local merchants fearing to dash with charters effected in the south."

According to the *Mercury*, Major Bauer, an officer of the Railway Brigade attached to the staff of Count Waldersee, intended to return to Germany through Manchuria and Siberia, but the Russians, who apparently did not wish to let him see all their cards, refused him passage. He therefore returned to Chifoo and thence to Vladivostok. Colonel Powell had about the same experience, but disregarded the Russian prohibition and went ahead. It is reported from reliable sources that the Russians had a very lively turn with the British Colonel, but it is reported that it is incorrect, as stated in several English papers, that he was arrested as a spy. Colonel Powell has made no backward movement up to the present, and great interest is felt as to whether or no the Russians will allow a British officer to do what they refused to allow a German officer to do.

Dr. Horace N. Allen was renominated on the 21st ult. as Minister-Resident and Consul-General of the United States at Seoul, Corea, a post he has held for many years. He is a man of about 45 years of age, who was sent out to Asia as a missionary doctor, and after spending a short time in China, went to Corea. At this time the missionaries were held in low esteem by the Coreans, and they were working hard to get a foothold. Some years ago a rebellion occurred, in which Kim Ok Kina and others seized the King, and in which the conspirators nearly killed one of the King's family, Prince Min Yong Ik. He was almost out to pieces with swords, and his life was despaired of, when Dr. Allen was called in. He knew that he would be charged with killing the Prince if he failed to cure him and that the Prince's chances of life and death hung upon a hair. Dr. Allen, however, concluded to risk it on his own skill and Prince Min Yong Ik's vitality. He sewed up his wounds, nursed him for days, and finally made him a sound man. This gave Dr. Allen a great reputation throughout the whole land. He was called in to prescribe for the Corean nobles, and during the years of his mission in Corea he actually turned into the mission funds over \$5,000 a year which he got from his outside practice.

LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The Imperial German Mail steamer *Bayern*, left Fochow yesterday at 9 p.m., and may be expected here to-day at daylight.
The P. & O. steamer *Fenby* left Singapore for this port on the 23rd inst. at 1 p.m.

TELEGRAMS.

"DAILY PRESS" SERVICE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

SHANGHAI, 24th July, 7.40 p.m.

REPORTED INSURGENT VICTORY
IN MANCHURIA.

The natives report, with a certain appearance of truth, that the Chinese and Russian troops have been seriously defeated by the insurgents in South-East Manchuria, and that the latter are now destroying the telegraph lines.

LONDON, 23rd July, 8 p.m.

THE INDEMNITY.

Mr. Roschill cables to Washington that the demortisation of bonds will begin in 1902, and that the principal and interest will be paid off by 1940. China is to raise 23,000,000 taels annually.

GENERAL NEWS.

LONDON, 23rd July, 8 p.m.

LORD MILNER IN LONDON.

The freedom of the City of London has been conferred on Lord Milner.

REUTER'S SERVICE.

LONDON, 22nd July.

THE LATE MRS. KRUGER.

The newspapers respectfully sympathise with ex-President Kruger in his bereavement.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

Count Hunsdorff, Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, is expected in Paris in September, returning M. Delcasse's visit to St. Petersburg.

LONDON, 22nd July.

COST OF THE EXPEDITION
TO CHINA.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach in the House of Commons, stated that the total cost of the expedition to China amounts to £4,350,000 sterling, exclusive of the Naval expenditure.

ORIENT LINES TO EMPLOY
LASCARS.

The Directors of the Orient line of Mail steamers have decided to employ Lascars in the vessels of their fleet.

FURTHER INTENSE HEAT
IN AMERICA.

A fresh wave of intense heat is passing over the American continent.

THE PLAGUE.

During the 24 hours ending at noon yesterday there were reported 6 fresh Chinese cases of plague and 7 deaths, of which 5 were Chinese and 2 European.

One of the two European deaths reported was that of Private Nelson, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, as we reported in yesterday's issue; the other was Mrs. Brownhill, who died on Tuesday at 11.55 p.m. The sad circumstances attending the death of Captain Brownhill and now of Mrs. Brownhill are almost too well known to need repetition. On the eve of departing for home, they were stricken with the disease and taken to the Plague Hospital on the day previous to that on which they were to sail from Hongkong. The husband succumbed very quickly, but the news of his death was kept from Mrs. Brownhill until she was thought to be sufficiently recovered to bear the shock. The crisis in the unfortunate lady's illness, however, arrived on Sunday night, and from that time she gradually sank until her death. Mrs. Brownhill was buried by the side of her husband at Happy Valley.

THE CHINESE MISSION TO
GERMANY.

The German steamer *Bayern*, which has on board Prince Chun, who is going to Germany on a mission of apology for the murder of Baron von Ketteler, did not arrive in the harbour yesterday afternoon, as expected. A delay occurred in leaving Shanghai, we are informed, and the *Bayern* did not reach Fochow bar until the tide was too low to admit of the bar being crossed. The departure of the *Bayern* has been postponed until 6 p.m. to-day. Prince Chun will probably call privately on H. E. the Governor, and should he do so it is the intention of the leading Chinese to entertain him afterwards to tea at the Chinese Club. There will be no public demonstrations.

In anticipation of the arrival of Prince Chun yesterday, the Government yacht *Stanley* was ordered to move alongside Blake Pier at 9.30 a.m. When the fact of the *Bayern* having been delayed at Fochow became known, the order was countermanded.

THE "CANTON RIVER" RAISED.

At last the dredger *Canton River*, after more than eight months' sojourn under the waters of the harbour, into which she sank during the typhoon on the 10th November last, has been raised from the bottom, and provided that no typhoon visits Hongkong at this very moment it may reasonably be expected that she will be safely towed over to dock at Kowloon for the operations on her to be completed. It is probable that she will be sold at no very distant date.

The pumping operations recommenced at 7.30 a.m. yesterday, and by 8 o'clock the dredger was beginning to move from the bottom. All proceeded very well, and only at one time was any anxiety felt. This was at about 8.30 a.m., when the *Canton River* suddenly made a heavy list to starboard and there appeared for a brief while a possibility of her turning over as she did before. Now, however, the removal of her top-hammer has made a vast difference to the ease of manipulation, and so yesterday the rigorous working of the pumps in the right direction speedily got rid of all danger by righting the vessel, and operations proceeded without another hitch. At 9 o'clock the pumps gave out, by which time the *Canton River* had the whole of her deck above the water-line. She was making no water, from which it may be inferred that there are no holes in her. She looked, moreover, in excellent condition, for all her eight months below the water. It now remains to tow her over to Kowloon, where hand-pumps will complete the work and remove the remaining water preparatory to her docking. It is to be noted that this time the *Canton River* did not come up bow first as in the previous attempt to raise her, but bodily—a fact due to the way in which she has been lightened before the final pumping.

Yesterday's operations were carried out under the able directions of Mr. T. S. Morton, to whom great credit is due for accomplishing a task which has proved hitherto so baffling. The *Canton River* was originally brought out from Paisley, where she was built by Messrs. Fleming & Ferguson, to the order of Messrs. Punchard, Lowther & Co., who were to use her for dredging operations in connection with the Naval Yard extension work. As is well known, she is a very powerful type of dredger, being built to receive within 15 or 20 minutes 150 tons into her hoppers, which had a total capacity of 750 tons. She is now the property partly of the Commercial Union Assurance Co., who have a lien of £23,000 on her, and partly of the underwriters in London, with whom she is insured for £12,000 and who are represented here by Messrs. Gilman & Co., of Queen's Road Central.

SUPREME COURT.

Wednesday, 24th May.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

UTTERING A FORGED WILL.

Lo Yew Hoi, alias Tai Li, was charged with uttering a forged will. He pleaded not guilty, and was defended by Mr. E. Robinson, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. Grist). Mr. J. J. Francis, K.C. (instructed by Mr. Hareton) prosecuted.

The jury was made up as follows:—Messrs. B. J. Barlow, G. F. William, O. M. D. Ball, A. Bain, C. Farrington, H. Haynes and C. Pemberton.

Mr. Francis, who stated the case at considerable length, said there recently died at Canton a man named Lo Tsun, a bird-fancier who rented premises here, in Colborne Street and at 116, Queen's Road. He was in possession of household property in Hongkong (some of it his own and some held in lease by him to other persons) to the value of \$30,000 or over. After marrying his first wife, by whom he had a daughter, Lo Tsun married again, according to Chinese custom. For the last two or three years of his life he was very ill from dropsy, and with his family, removed from Hongkong to Canton. He continued seriously ill, so that for the greater part of the time he was confined to the house, and was unable to attend to any business. Lo Tsun died on 4th November, 1900, in Canton, and on 18th December, in the same year, his younger brother, Lo Fook by name, produced a will in Chinese purporting to be the will of his elder brother, Lo Tsun, and filed a petition in the Supreme Court to probate jurisdiction for the granting of the probate of this will to him. On the same day, 18th December, there came before the office of the Supreme Court here two men, one of them the prisoner, who made a declaration that the Chinese document then shown to them was the last will and testament of Lo Tsun, that they had seen him affix his finger-mark to that will, and that they themselves had signed as witnesses to the will in the presence of Lo Tsun and in the presence of each other. The widow of the deceased asserted that the will was a forgery, and in vindication of her own rights made application in the Supreme Court for administration to be granted her of the estate and effects of her deceased husband in Hongkong. Ordinary proceedings were taken as between two parties, and finally a writ was issued and a suit commenced by Lo Fook for the purpose of establishing the bona-fides of the will he had produced. The date of the issuing of that writ was 6th February, 1901, and proceedings were taken in the Supreme Court here to test the validity of the will, and to establish the will under its terms the whole of the property of the deceased man would be vested in Lo Fook, who would have the administration and control of it. Possibly even the interpretation might have been put on the will that Lo Fook's son would be the person on whom the whole of the property would ultimately devolve. If, on the other hand, the will was not proved to the satisfaction of the Court, letters of administration of the property would be vested in the widow, who would in the absence of a will under English law, take one-third, the other two-thirds probably going to the daughter, the estate and effects in Hongkong, whatever the amount, to be their own absolute property. The brother, Lo Fook, would get nothing. In this state of affairs, about 17th April last Lo Fook and the prisoner interviewed the widow in Hongkong, and made certain proposals to her, with a view to the settlement of the differences between them, without resort to further litigation. The proposal was that the widow should adopt the son

of Lo Fook as her son, and thereby enable him to be a person entitled to a share in the interest of the property. Of course, explained Mr. Francis, that was the Chinese idea, not necessarily the English. In addition to adopting the son, the widow was to pay Lo Fook \$500 in satisfaction of the expenses he had incurred so far in return for all of which Lo Fook would consent to her taking out letters of administration of the estate and effects of her deceased husband. The widow agreed to the proposal, and it was arranged between them that the parties should go to the office of Mr. Evans, who was the solicitor for the widow, with the view, presumably, of having the matter discussed and, if finally agreed upon, reduced to writing and given practical effect to. On 18th April they called at the office of Mr. Evans, but Mr. Sin Tak Fan, the principal Chinese clerk, was absent, and nothing was done. The prisoner and Lo Fook's son returned on the following day, and saw in the office, during the forenoon, Mr. Sin Tak Fan. There were also present the widow of the deceased, her married daughter, and the dead man's concubine, also a man describing himself as a broker. In the course of conversation between the prisoner, the widow, and Mr. Sin Tak Fan in connection with the proposals for a settlement, the prisoner stated to Mr. Sin Tak Fan, in the hearing of the others, that he was the Lo Yew Hoi whose name appeared as one of the witnesses to the will, and that he was going to the Supreme Court to swear he had witnessed the execution of the will. He stated to Sin Tak Fan that he had in fact signed the will as a witness, and that the will was actually written out and made a considerable time after the death of Lo Tsun. The result of that communication was that Lo Yew Hoi was charged at the Police Court, and had been committed for trial. In effect, the charge against him was that he had falsely sworn, purporting to be the last will and testament of Lo Tsun, with intent to defraud. That the prisoner had, so attested, disposed of, and put off that will as a true will, it would be the task of the prosecution to prove to the reasonable satisfaction of the jury. The records of the Probate Court would be produced, besides the declaration of the prisoner that he was a witness to the will, and the evidence would also be taken of the officer of the Court who took the declaration. There was no direct proof that the will had been forged, and the dead man, of course, could not be produced to give evidence that the will was his will. The evidence in support of that portion of the charge was to a large extent necessarily circumstantial, but not the less strong for that reason. The evidence for the prosecution would be, first, that Lo Tsun was confined to his bed for a period long anterior to the date on which the will purported to be executed by him. Secondly, that the evidence of the widow, of the married daughter, and of the concubine, during the examination, and of the evidence of her own knowledge—Lo Tsun did not execute or sign any will, and that neither Lo Fook nor the prisoner, nor the other person who professed to have attested the will, ever saw Lo Tsun, or ever were in his house in Canton. The will was dated 1st January, 1901, nearly twelve months before Lo Tsun's death. The only signature to it was the deceased's finger-mark, or what purported to be his finger-mark. It would be shown clearly that at that time, the 1st of January, 1901, the testator was not in a state of health which rendered it necessary for him to make a finger-mark; he was then able to write and to sign his name. The prosecution would put before the jury an agreement entered into by the deceased on that very day, by which he made arrangements with a Chinese gentleman here in Hongkong to let jointly with him in taking over the lease of a certain house. On that day the deceased was capable of writing and signing his name, and he did sign the documents necessary to the agreement. It was true that just before his death he had to use a finger-mark in signing documents regarding the sale of certain portions of his property, but this was only just before his death, and that was where the former made the mistake that had caused him to be put on his trial. The examination and cross-examination of witnesses occupied the entire day, and at four o'clock the Court adjourned till ten o'clock this morning.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board will be held to-day, Thursday, 25th July, at 4.15 p.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

1. Further Report by the Sanitary Improvement Committee.
2. Report relative to the Lighting of the Central Market.
3. Report of the Quarterly Inspection Committee.

4. Letter from Government relative to the Tung Yeh Hospital, Slopess, Retarus, and their bearing on the question of height of buildings.

5. Reply from Government relative to excessive Chinese infant mortality.

6. The Sanitary Surveyor's Report for the second quarter of 1901.

7. The Medical Officer of Health, pursuant to notice, will move—

That the Board beg to recommend that a public latrine of forty seats be erected on that site of Crown land which is situated at the corner of Kennedy Street and Market Street, Yau-mai, to the East of Kennedy Street, and to the South of Market Street.

8. The Vice-President, pursuant to notice, will move—

That the Board appoint a Sub-Committee to revise the existing procedure for taking precautions against and dealing with an epidemic of Plague.

G. A. WOODCOCK,
Acting Secretary.

AGENDA.

1. Minutes by the Medical Officer of Health relative to the withdrawal of the order closing the premises known as Wild Duck buildings.

2. Correspondence relative to the reopening of the plague cemetery at Cheung Sha Wan.

3. Correspondence relative to the re-opening of the Chinese theatres.

4. Further correspondence relative to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's proposed plague hospital at Quarry Bay.

5. Application relative to the erection of verandahs at Nos. 22 to 34, Pokfulam Road.

6. Results of the analysis of three samples of well water.

A good story is being told of Col. G. C. Knight, who commanded the New South Wales Mounted Infantry in the Transvaal. The Colonel was told by headquarters to expostulate with his men for killing sheep. His speech on parade was a thing of beauty. "I've been told," he said, "to put my foot down upon this sheep-killing; and by my blank bloody blank I'm going to do it." Then his voice dropped a little, and he added, "Of course, you know, if a sheep attacks you, I don't blame you should you, in self-defence, kill it. I'll tell you, from the ranks, I've seen the rest, and from my own experience, I've seen the rest, and from my own experience, I've seen the rest."

POLICE COURT.

Wednesday, 24th July.

BEFORE MR. HAZELAND.

VITTINGBOM COUNTERFEIT COIN.

A Chinese money-changer was charged with uttering counterfeit money, well knowing the same to be counterfeit, to wit, forty-seven 20-cent pieces. He pleaded not guilty.

Li Han, a head coolie, deposed that he went to the money-changer's place at 7.30 a.m. on the 18th inst. He saw defendant there and two other men. He produced twenty dollars in five-dollar bills, and asked that they be changed into 20-cent pieces. Defendant handed him the two rolls, produced in court, marked A and B. He told defendant that he knew nothing of shilling, and that if there were any had of shilling, the money received he would return them. He had not often before with defendant. He took the money to pay rent. When he headed the landlord the two rolls, the latter opened it, and returned the second roll, after examining the money, saying it was useless. The money was examined by witness's presence. When he brought back the roll to defendant, the latter refused to accept it, saying he had given witness good money.

Defendant denied having uttered the spurious coins, and as there was practically no evidence to prove that he did intentionally utter the bad coins, the charge was dismissed.

BEFORE MR. KEMP.

DISORDERING ORDER OF SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Fifty-one inhabitants of the old village of Tai Hang were summoned before His Worship for failing to obey an order of the Sanitary Board to provide adequate drainage for their houses and for using impervious material in the construction of the same.

Dr. Clark, Medical Officer of Health, appeared on behalf of the Sanitary Board, and asked His Worship for an order to declare the houses in the old village of Tai Hang unfit for human habitation, stating that the Government required some such order before the order was issued and in the matter. If the order were issued and a reasonable time given to defendants to shift, Government would not grant them land in the new village of Tai Hang whereon to build their houses. He (Dr. Clark) did not ask for any penalty for defendants, merely the granting of the order.

Inspector Hoggarth testified to having served the summons on defendants, and Mr. James Bryan, Surveyor for the Sanitary Board, deposed to the unhealthy condition of defendants' dwellings, especially that of the first defendant, a woman, the drainage of whose dwelling was in a horrible state.

First defendant said:—We have occupied Tai Hang several hundred years before the British took the Colony and for nine generations the country houses have been as they are now.

His Worship found first defendant guilty, and decided that the dwelling-houses were unfit for human habitation.

Other defendants all pleaded guilty. The summons was adjourned till September next.

ANOTHER SMALL ARSENAL.
The owner of a junk was charged by Inspector Reilly with having arms and ammunition on his boat without permit from the Capt. Supt. of Police, to wit four cannons, five guns, five breech-loading carbines, two choppers, forty-five pounds of powder and seven boxes of percussion caps.

Defendant was fined \$50.

SELLING LOTTERY TICKETS.
Ip Kok Han, was fined \$10 or fourteen days hard labour for unlawfully selling Macao lottery tickets.

DUNK AND DISORDERLY.
Laurence McArdle for being disorderly in the Sailors Home, was fined \$2 or seven days.

James Duffy, an A.B. on the U.S.S. *Wilmington*, who had been a ricksha ride on Tuesday night, was charged with knocking an Indian's turban off. He caught a taxi, however, as the Indian turned and tackled him. The matter ended in Duffy being taken to Central Station and fined \$15 or fourteen days by His Worship yesterday.

William McBride for being drunk and incapable received a \$2 fine or seven days hard labour.

COLLISION AT WOOSUNG.

The N.C. Daily News of the 20th inst. gives the following account of the collision at Woosung, which was whereby a mail-tender was damaged and a person sunk:

In the early hours of yesterday morning, a somewhat serious collision occurred at Woosung, between the Italian steamer *Kaisa*, Co.'s steamer *Akita*, from Japan, and the German mail-tender *Bremen*. The collision took place about 4 a.m. The N.D.L. steamer *Bayern* was at anchor near Woosung lighthouse, and the tender *Bremen* was alongside her. Both boats were swinging with the tide. The M.B.K. steamer *Akita*, from Japan, arriving from Nagasaki with a cargo of coal, was coming in at the time, and from some cause, unknown to us at present, she came into collision with the *Bremen*, her stern cutting into the tender right amidships on the port side. The *Akita* immediately reversed her engines and went full speed astern, and in doing so, struck into the *Bremen*, which was smashed up. The *Bremen* suffered considerable damage, both above and below the water-line, and was leaking badly. The stern of the *Akita* seems badly damaged, and the breaking of the guard rail and driving through several planks on the upper deck and staying in several places on the port side. Had she penetrated a foot further, she must have cut into the hull of the tender. The *Bremen* suffered practically no damage. Two of her upper plates were bulged, but she sustained no damage to interfere with her departure at the proper time to-day.

It was very fortunate that the *Bremen* happened to be where she was, for she acted as a tender for the *Bayern*, having the bulk of the cargo, and thus preventing what might have been a far more serious accident. Had the *Bremen* not been there, the *Akita* would have struck into the *Bayern*, and what might have occurred can be better imagined than described. At any rate, the mail steamer would have been seriously damaged.

The *Bremen* was beached at Woosung and temporarily patched up to enable her to steam up to Shanghai. Later in the day, she was launched alongside the steamer *Bayern*, and the *Akita* was towed up to the Old Dock yesterday evening. The services of the tender *Kocher* were requisitioned for the purpose of conveying passengers and mails to the *Bayern* at Woosung.

The *Akita* *Maru* will be better known under her former name, the *Produce*. She was a Norwegian steamer of 1,100 tons registered measurement, and was purchased by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha Co. about three years ago, when she was renamed the *Akita* *Maru*.

WUCHOW.

Wuchow, 8th July.

A FLOODED CITY.

Wuchow, the gate of Kwangsi, at the junction of the Cassia and the West River, has lately entered upon its fifth year as an open port. It has now put on its summer clothes in the nature of flooded streets, a large part of the business part of the city being now like Venice. The great West River, a miniature Yangtze, has risen 62 feet above mean low-water level, and is flowing by in a mighty stream a mile and a half in width. The up-river steamers are much delayed, taking about two days from Canton. This rise of the river is within two feet of the great rise in 1897.

ON PAPER ONLY.

H.M.S. *Endeavour* has been adding to her tally having been up to Nanning, and has returned in safety. That city still remains as before, viz., an open port on paper only. I believe I am right in saying that individual members of the Imperial Maritime Customs here have been holding themselves in readiness for over two years to move on to Nanning, waiting for the word which never comes.

A CURIOUS MISTAKE.

One strange thing in connection with the *Endeavour's* trip was told me by a missionary who has just been over the same route, viz., that almost everywhere she was called "The Roman Catholic gunboat (or steamer)" and was supposed to be French. When informed she was British, the news was apparently received with satisfaction. In this connection one would be almost bold to suggest that such a boat in inland waters should fly a secondary flag, with Chinese characters, showing the nationality.

IN NANNING.

It is reported that the Roman Catholics have bought a large area, in fact the whole of one street, paying almost any price asked, and also several acres outside the city wall. It is said this is to be their new headquarters.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

Wuchow shows some signs of development from a foreign point of view. The British Consular offices and prison stand at the foot of the Consular hill, on the opposite bank of the Cassia river to the city. These form a standing object lesson of solidity and—shall I say—stupidity. Strongly built (though the foundations show signs of slipping in a narrow gap between two hills on North and South, it possesses not a single window on the West, and hence can never have a thorough draught. On a sweltering day one is inclined to pity the occupants to be. On the opposite hill, within the city wall, the officials have built a small powder magazine. I wonder what will happen to the city when its turn comes to follow its predecessors.

MORE BUILDINGS.

The American Baptists, after years of work here, are building two dwelling-houses to the East of the city, on the West River, beyond Messrs. Jardine, Matheson's property. The Wesleyan Mission have also added to their buildings.

The Customs staff have started a club and have a small club house, which is a great convenience for all who have to live month in and month out on boats. The projected dwelling-houses seem as far off as ever.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance have a makeshift on their hill, the next to the Consular hill, the forerunner of the Home they are about to erect. At present three new arrivals from America are inhabiting the coolest place in and out of Wuchow.

As in other parts, prices have a strong upward tendency, and especially now, as rice is dear, but no means exorbitantly high.—N.C. Daily News.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the P. & T. Times of the 18th inst.:

A meeting of military commanders is shortly to be held under the presidency of General Voyron, to decide whether the Taku Forts shall actually be razed or not.

The new Peiho river police has been organized with 40 Chinese of a standard height of 5 ft. 11 in. The department has 8 junks with 6 Chinese police and 3 Italian sailors each, and two steam launches, the whole under the command of Captain Deato of the Italian navy.

Tientsin has had three furious storms of wind, rain, and hail in quick succession.

H.M.S. *Orlando* at Taku communicated easily the other day with another vessel 68 miles off by wireless telegraphy.

The native Christians who flocked into the French Settlement at Tientsin during the troubles are returning to the east of the river.

Respectable Chinese families are flocking into Peking from the vicinity to escape roving robbers.

Kidnapping is being carried on very remuneratively by the brigands round Shanhaikwan.

Admiral Bridge arrived at Taku on the 9th with General Creagh, and proceeded promptly to Peking.

The P. & T. Times doubts whether the dispatch of tribute rice to the north is a proof that the Court is returning; but Chinese so regard it.

The Imperial troops have had two defeats in Chihli.

Visitors to Tientsin who consider themselves above the law because they have no Consul at the port are reminded that the Provisional Government looks after them.

Tientsin is to have an electrical tramway from the Settlements to the city and round the native city, electric lighting in the native city, and a bridge over the Peiho opposite the railway station.

General Mei's regular troops, being entirely unprovided for, as usual, as great a curse to the villagers as the brigands they are sent to suppress.

The Allied Villagers have captured Chiehchow and are besieging Po-yeh, in Chihli and near Pootung, having seized the magistracy in one district, and they captured eight carts of stores with 2,000 taels belonging to General Lin. The leader is said to be a wealthy man named Chang. A large number of disbanded soldiers are joining the Lienshang Hui.

"When I get to heaven," said a woman to her Baomian husband, "I am going to ask Shakespeare if he wrote those plays." "Maybe he won't be there," was the reply. "Then you ask him," said the wife.

EXPORT CARGO.

For steamer *Indra*, sailed on the 15th July. For New York: 2,709 boxes cassia liquor, 20 boxes human hair, 5,750 pigs, five crackers, 130 pigs, 81 pigs, rattanware, 75 pigs, split bamboo, 300 cks. nut oil, 70 cks. wood oil, 10 pigs, sundries.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

NEWS VIA CABLE.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

London, 10th July.

IMPORTANT MEETING AT GOSWELL.
A meeting of City men was held at the Guildhall this afternoon to support Government in its South African policy. The Lord Mayor presided, and several members of the House of Commons spoke. A resolution of confidence in Government and condemning pro-Boerism was carried with enthusiasm.

THE VLAARFONTEIN CHARGES.
The papers are publishing private letters from troopers and yeomen all reiterating that the Boers killed the wounded Vlaarfontein.

REINFORCEMENTS.
1,500 Infantry will proceed to the Cape in the course of July.

Allahabad, 9th July.

POOR PRISONERS GROW FAT.
Reports from Bellary and Trichinopoly show that the Boers there are contented with their lot as prisoners can be. They are particularly struck with the quantity and quality of food provided. Most of them are said to be growing fat, a sure sign of good treatment.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE NEW MINISTER AND THE OLD POLICY.
London, 10th July.

The Standard's Odessa correspondent says it is confidently stated at St. Petersburg, that the new Minister goes to Peking to continue the Russian's expansive policy in a manner not calculated to gratify the London and Berlin Cabinets.

RUSSIA AND CENTRAL ASIA.
London, 10th July.

By carefully arranged proceedings the Russian Geographical Society is sponsoring a scientific expedition to the Pamirs under the leadership of Doctor Fedashenko. The expedition is now at Tashkent, and proceeds to Andijan and thence to the Indian Frontier.

London, 10th July.

THE PLAYERS HAVE BEATEN THE GENTLEMEN BY 221 RUNS.
Simla, 10th July.

The following notice has been issued by the Finance Department:—By a decree, published the 27th December, 1900, the French Government continued till the 30th June, 1901, their minimum tariff for the colonial produce of various countries, including the British possessions. Intimation has been received from the Secretary of State for India that the minimum tariff has been further prolonged till the 23rd of February next.

RUSSIA AND THE BALKAN STATES.
London, 11th July.

A Times telegram from Vienna says Russia's increasing friendliness towards Serbia and Bulgaria is causing some anxiety in Austria.

MR. BRODRICK'S SPEECH.
London, 11th July.

Mr. Brodrick, speaking at a banquet of the Conservative Association, said the mistakes made by Government were due to an excess of consideration for the enemy. Government, he said, trusted Lord Kitchener and would place no obstacles in his way. Referring to the expedition to China he paid tribute to the Viceroy and the Government of India for the way they had interpreted the Imperial obligations, enabling us to show the immense widening influence that Great Britain can bring to bear in any part of the globe.

THE SULTAN AND THE KHEIVIE.
London, 11th July.

The Times Constantinople correspondent says the Khedive in visiting the Sultan because the latter was impatient to converse about the young Turks in Egypt.

THE LIBERAL PARTY.
London, 11th July.

It is understood that Lord Rosebery has declined the Chairmanship at the banquet to Mr. Asquith and that Sir E. Grey will preside.

THE VICTORIA MEMORIAL IN INDIA.
Calcutta, 11th July.

The Viceroy has sent Mr. G. G. Chalmers, the Calcutta Municipality, a telegram of thanks for the Municipal donation of Rs. 25,000 to the Victoria Memorial Fund.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.
Allahabad, 11th July.

The report of the Famine Commission over which Sir A. E. Macdonnell presided, is likely to be published next week.

N.W. FRONTIER DISTURBANCES.
Simla, 11th July.

A regimental guard of the 45th Sikhs was attacked by Mahads yesterday morning within half a mile of Jandala. Two Europeans were killed and one dangerously wounded, and two rifles, a quantity of ball ammunition and some posts were carried off. Eighty rifles started immediately in pursuit and recovered the goats and brought in the bodies of the dead Europeans.

PIPE LINE TRANSPORTATION FOR SOLIDS.

One of the developments of the coming century, worthy of at least passing thought, is, says a writer in *Cassier's Magazine*, the great scheme of pneumatic tube principle which is employed to expedite transportation of goods, now entirely dependent on the long lines of loaded coal cars, for example, the way from the mines to the seaports, and back again, empty to the mines.

If the weight of a car is 25 per cent. of the gross load, there is in this instance more than 50 per cent. loss or non-paying freight, the empty train requiring about as much power to haul it up into the interior as was expended in taking it to the shipping port. It does not seem altogether unreasonable, therefore, to think that just as the miles of tank cars loaded with oil, which were seen in former years have disappeared, and that commodity is now sent hundreds of miles through pipe lines, to may coal grain, and ore be sent speeding through tubes to central depots for local distribution.

In the matter of coal transportation, in fact, just such pipe line conveyances were tried experimentally something like tea or tripe years by the late W. C. Andrews, of New York, the coal for that purpose being brought from one building to another through pipes by means of fans, and in potatoes, too, dry paste is frequently carried from one point to another through pipes.

There is, thus, a fairly good beginning for pipe-line engineering with solids.

THE TRANSVAAL AND ORANGE COLONY.

Mr. W. Blösch, whose work "The New South Africa" entitles him to be regarded as an authority on the resources of the two republics recently annexed by Great Britain, has just given his view on Sir David Barbour's report to a representative of the *Glasgow Evening News*. After remarking upon the singular ability and comprehensive nature of Sir David's report, Mr. Blösch said: I think that before the Imperial Government could arrive at any adequate idea of the resources of the Transvaal, it would be necessary to have at least two other reports—one by an eminent mining expert and another by an expert agriculturist. When these gentlemen had concluded their reports the financial expert would be in a better position to formulate his scheme. I think it is a point of considerable importance to note that Sir David's report is based upon the production of 1899, which is really not a proper basis for a report of the future revenue, because the gold industry was growing so fast that in three years the yield of gold would have been doubled. It is a fact that before the war the mining companies were giving out orders for plant and laying plans for future operations which would have meant the doubling of the Rand's output within a few years. On the whole Sir David is rather conservative in his estimates, I think, and the revenue of the Transvaal will be much more elastic than he makes allowances for.

I don't agree with him about the Orange River Colony being unable to pay its share of the cost of the war. It is a comparatively rich country, and should be able to pay its fair share. It is rather remarkable that in the report no account seems to have been taken of the State-owned railways as a capital asset. They are a valuable asset. I observe, too, that there is a curious mistake in the report, the extent of the Crown lands in the Orange River Colony. It says 11,000,000 acres of land; and that "the Government had in the Orange River Colony that has been surveyed comes to about half of the above amount." Now, as a matter of fact, the Government land in the Orange Colony is only about 570,000 acres.

I consider Sir David Barbour's recommendations regarding changes in the gold law to be of the greatest value. His suggestion, too, regarding the removal of the duties upon foodstuffs is good; it is necessary that the cost of living in a new country should be low. I do not think the police on natives should be reduced, as it is the natives don't pay their fair share. His suggestion that the police should be allowed to search for minerals without the consent of the proprietor of the land would in all probability result in the extension of new goldfields, as well as of the old ones. This is one of the best suggestions in the report. Sir David does not refer to Lord Roberts' proclamation regarding enforcing payments of arrears claim licences issued during the war. In my opinion this is unjust, and should be rescinded.

It is rather surprising that no taxation on the Boers or on the land is suggested. He says it is inexpedient to raise taxation at present, but I don't agree with him. It seems to me that one of the most important items of future fiscal policy will be to tax the land in such a way as to ensure that it will be put to profitable use. At present ground areas are held by individuals who make no use of it. A tax on land is the only method of making the Boers contribute towards the cost of the war.

I think the cost of the special police should be added to the total of the cost of the war debt to be charged against the colonies, and only the interest considered in the meantime. Also the indefinite hanging up of the question of the amount to be charged is inadvisable. Sir David Barbour seems to be of the same opinion. Let them know at once what they are going to pay. I might suggest, too, that, instead of maintaining 10,000 police as police pure and simple, it would be better to select half of these men, say, and give them each an area of land to cultivate. Make them settlers and British burglar police at one and the same time. It would be quite feasible.

The future of South Africa will be a great one, I think. One of the most important needs is a proper land policy, and the Government should, without delay, organise a land department in conjunction with an emigration department.

AN OUTPOST OF EMPIRE.

The curious group of islands lying north-west of Madagascar, and known as the Aldabra group, have recently changed hands. The Government of the Seychelles Islands, of which politically Aldabra forms part, has leased the group for a term of thirty years to Messrs. Bates, Bergue & Co., acting for the Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., and themselves. Mr. Rothschild's interests in the islands is probably derived from their remarkable fauna. Aldabra is almost the sole habitat of that antediluvian reptile, the gharial, and of the world where that reptile is found. Some of these tortoises might have been seen in the Bombay Dockyard last September on their way to Mr. Rothschild's zoological gardens at Tring Park. Certain birds and insects, too, are believed to be peculiar to these islands. Besides Aldabra proper, which consists of a ring of land broken by channels and surrounding a lagoon about fifty square miles in extent, the group includes a small island of similar formation, Comode, and Assumption Islands. At the west end of the Aldabra lagoon there is a fine land-locked harbour named after H. M. S. *Euphrates*, and capable of giving shelter to the largest fleet. Owing to the large volume of water in the lagoon and the lack of sufficient outlet the tides are at times very strong, which is rather a drawback. Aldabra itself contains little land capable of cultivation; on the other islands, however, there are hundreds of acres suitable for coconut plantation, and the lagoons and coasts of the whole group swarm with fish and turtle, including the hawksbill variety, and of the so-called tortoise-shell. An interesting feature of these islands from a scientific point of view, in 1894 the French flag was hoisted on Glorioso Island, less than one hundred miles south of Aldabra. Before that date Glorioso, with some adjacent islets, had been considered British territory, and was included in the list of the Dependencies of Mauritius. Aldabra is now the outpost of the British Empire to the west of the Indian Ocean, with the Comore Islands, Glorioso and Madagascar stretching in a French semi-circle from the south-west to the south-east. Was lost, it is said, solely from the lack of a British flag or from the neglect to hoist it; it is to be hoped that the loss of Aldabra will be a proper precaution against similar aggression.

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SPORT AND ANECDOTE.

BY AN OLD POONY.

MR. MACLAREN'S AUSTRALIAN TEAM.

Mr. Archibald MacLaren, the Lancashire captain, is not allowing the grass to grow under his feet while he is preparing for a projected tour of the English cricketers in Australia. Already he has announced, through the Press, that probably Mr. Gilbert Jessop will be one of the party, and from what I told you a fortnight ago it may be taken for granted that a right royal reception awaits the little great batter in Greater Britain. A man of his physique, with such dashing would be popular anywhere, but more so in a land which has produced a Bannister, a McDonald, a Lyons, and a Worrall. But it will be gratifying information to our cousins "down under" to know that Arthur Augustus Lilley will most likely become of the party, as well as Tom Hayward of Surrey. Like Jessop, Lilley has never been to Australia, and as the principal wicket-keeper in England in 1899 in four out of the five test matches against Joe Darling's team, as well as figuring in that capacity in 1896, his presence in sure to prove a very great magnet. Moreover, after what Tom Hayward accomplished for the Mother Country in 1899, his reappearance is sure to be keenly anticipated in Australia. When he was in the Colonies with Stoddart's team in 1897-98 there is no doubt that Hayward did not do himself justice. In no first class match did he reach three figures, 73 in the first test match at Sydney in December being his highest innings in twenty attempts. True, he had an average of forty, but considering that Ranjitsinhji's was sixty-two and MacLaren's fifty-nine, it will be seen that he by no means reached his standard of play in this country, where the wickets are supposed to be so much inferior to those experienced in Australia. In fact, Hayward was a great disappointment, especially if we look back to 1899 and note his accomplishments in the Old Country. There never was an innings which so nearly deserved the adjective "perfect" as that of Tom Hayward at Manchester when he scored 130. I shall never forget his supreme self-restraint before Luncheon and the glory of his strokes in the afternoon. Cleaner cuts and drives were never seen. Then again can we ever forget his 137 at the Oval in the next match, when F. S. Jackson also made 118, and the pair broke the record for the first wicket in any test match by compiling 185. Some admirer presented Hayward with a magnificent diamond pin after his triumph at Manchester, but after his masterful exhibition at Kensington the public subscribed and handed him over £150 while play was in progress. I really think that a slice of that sum should have been given to Lockwood for what he achieved with the ball, but that is merely my opinion, and neither here nor there. But at the end of the test matches in England in 1899, Hayward, who is a Cambridge man by birth, rejoiced in an average of 68, which was far in front of Ranji, MacLaren, or anybody else. Looking at these facts, I feel sure that Australians will rejoice to see the Surrey crick once again, and if he should favour this Colonial public with one of his great innings, they will never forget it. His style is graceful in the extreme, his off-drive being full of beauty and power. The ball travels at a great pace, and keeps very low. He has a very clever hit over cover-point's head and a crisp cut. Personally, I think Hayward one of the greatest bats that we have, and the fact that he just managed to beat Abel in completing 1,000 runs first for the current season proves that he is in as great form as ever.

"DICK" LILLEY.

As I have said, "Dick" Lilley is sure to be extremely popular in the land of the Southern Cross. He is so, even in his country, especially at Birmingham, this giving the lie to the saying that a cricketer is never honoured in his own country. Warwickshire has long been proud of Lilley as a home-grown product, and it must not be forgotten that in 1895 he was presented with a gold medal raised by public subscription limited to shillings to commemorate the fact that he was the first Warwickshire born man to complete 1,000 runs in a season. Only last week he took his benefit at Edgbaston, and despite unfavourable weather on the first day he is sure to receive at least £800. Born at Holloway Head, Birmingham, Lilley first saw the light in November, 1867. His first experience of cricket was obtained with the Bonnaville Club, an organisation run in connection with the works of Messrs. Cadbury, who supply the world with that toothsome sweetmat which we are told is "grateful and comforting." In this company he was discovered by the eccentric cricketer of more counties, the late Jack Skilton, and the result was that he was asked by the Warwickshire Committee to play in three Club and Ground matches, in the place of a professional named Grundy. His first match for Warwickshire was against Percy McDonnell's Australian team at Birmingham, on 11th to 12th May, in 1888, when he stumped Harry Trott and George Bonnor. At the close of the season he had a satisfactory record and has kept his place ever since, while it is a noteworthy fact that since 1888 Lilley has only missed eight matches for Warwickshire, and those mainly through ill-health. According to a table of statistics which appeared in the *Birmingham Magazine* for May, Lilley has in twelve years of first-class cricket stumped 76 batsmen and caught 289, giving him a total of 365 victims. He is a man who does his work without the least show, and seems to take all bowling except the very fastest with equal facility but to "express" he stands well back. Besides being a wicket-keeper, Lilley is a fine, free batsman, and up to the end of last season averaged 29 for 102 completed innings for his county. Needless to say he has exceeded three figures on many occasions. The first of these was 124 against Surrey at the Oval in 1893, but

possibly he never played finer cricket than his 65, not out, for England against Australia in the memorable match at Manchester in 1896, when the Colonists won by three wickets. It was in this match that at the request of W. G. Grace, Lilley took off his gloves and pads, to bowl, in such a knot was the English attack. Moreover, he secured the wicket of Harry Trott with his medium pace deliveries. It only remains to add that Lilley always says that he can never repay Arthur Shrewsbury for the instruction and advice which he has from time to time given him. Apart from cricket, Lilley was many years ago a very useful half-back at Association Football, and he is to-day one of the finest pigeon shots in the world. I used to ask old George Parr what he would have been if he had not been a cricketer, and he replied "Ay, lad, I should have been a shot, and a good shot too." The remarks can be applied to Dick Lilley, for he has killed as many as 63 pigeons out of 65, while at Coventry he once grassed 34 birds out of 35. Everybody one meets in Birmingham has a word of praise for his kindness of disposition, and his universal courtesy. He could have gone to Australia with Stoddart's team in 1897-98, but for private reasons he was compelled to decline the invitation.

SCORES OF 200.

The cricket season is not two months old, and yet we have seen several batsmen obtain innings of over 200. In May, G. C. B. Llewellyn, the new Hampshire professional, scored 216 against the South Africans, while the Abel of the north, Tyldesley, surpassed himself by scoring 221 for Lancashire v. Nottingham. Since the advent of June we have seen S. R. Kinneir, the Cornish amateur who qualified as a professional for Warwickshire, laboriously compile 215 against Lancashire. One of the South Africans, M. Hatherne, amassed 239 for the South African combination against Cambridge University. About the same time Mr. C. B. Fry was punishing the Leicestershire bowling to the extent of 244. But even this is not the highest aggregate of the season as Captain J. G. Greig hit up 249 not out against Lancashire. Mr. A. O. Jones this week also contributed 249 for Nottingham against Sussex—but Capt. Greig has the advantage as he was not out. So many colossal scores prove what a glorious time batsmen have had, and also what a revolution has been effected in cricket by the groundsmen and his lawn-mower. Time was when scores of 200 were exceedingly rare. Between 1852 to 1859 no innings of 200 was scored, and indeed up to 1870 only four men had ever made 200 runs in an attempt. These four were Mr. W. Ward, M.P., who rescued Lord's from the hands of the builders; Tom Hayward, the uncle of the present Tom Hayward; Harry Jupp, the Abel of his day, and the greatest of all, the one and only W. G. Grace. And yet in this season we have had eight batsmen who have exceeded the 200. The lawn-mower and the preparer of artificial wickets with his maul dressings, and his chalk preparations, have something to answer for. It has been my lot to see three of these innings in this year of grace. One of them, the highest score of the season, 240, by Captain J. G. Greig, was a revelation to all young cricketers. Every stroke known to modern batsmen is in the armoury of the gallant captain. But he is the proud performer of scoring hits which are very seldom seen nowadays. Captain Greig never allows a ball outside the off-stumps to escape without punishment. He either cuts the delivery as late as possible, so that the ball goes behind point or else chops it through the slips. His mastery of off-play is magnificent, and reminds old cricketers of the days of Mr. Joseph Mankinson, of Cambridge University, and of Ephraim Lockwood, of Yorkshire. Captain Greig, who was born in India, was educated at Downside Roman Catholic College, near Bath, and at Sandhurst. For the last eight years he has been at Bombay, having a commission in the Bombay Pioneers, and throughout that Presidency he has for years been noted as a great batsman. After making the record score in England, I can well believe all the reports as to the remarkable scores he has made in the Oriental Peninsula.

THE CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The first batch of championships promoted by the National Cyclists' Union was decided on Saturday at Bristol. The amateur race of one mile, which has ever been considered the Blue Ribbon of the wheel world, was won by Charles Pease, of the Dublin Wanderers, who just got home by half a length from R. Reynolds, who, curiously enough, is a clubmate. But the time of the winner, 2mins. 41.3secs., shows what a farce cycle racing is. When we consider that the mile from a standing start has been ridden by an amateur in 1min. 48.5secs., and by a professional in 1min. 38.5secs., it is obvious that so-called cycle racing nowadays is a crawl. The competitors watch each other like a cat watching a mouse until a moment when there comes one wild mad burst of speed for the winning post. Surely this state of things could be remedied by a law which would declare the race null and void unless each lap was completed in a minimum time. No doubt Pease, who has gained many victories in Ireland and Scotland this year, is a very able wheeler, but whether he is fit to follow in the footsteps of Ommond, Synner, and the men who pedalled an old ordinary is another matter. The quarter-mile championship was retained by the holder, A. S. Ingram, who has been a very well-known cyclist for some time. The good people of Bristol, where the championships were decided, were very much disappointed that Edmonds, their great local crick, was unable to compete. He was smashed up in a race during Whitweek, and powerful man as he is was very much knocked about. There is far more genuine sport in a quarter-mile championship than in a mile, for, looking in a sprint never pays.

FOOTBALL FINANCE AGAIN.

There is no more popular football club in the country than Aston Villa, nor one in which the public display greater interest. The annual meeting of the shareholders of the club will be

held next Friday, when the 26th report will be presented by Secretary Ramsay. The income of this great concern for the year ending 31st May has been £13,095, £11,574 being gate-money. As showing the cost of professional football today, it is interesting to note that the players' wages and transfers cost £5,938, and these same players received £288 for doing that which they were paid to do, namely, to win matches. Thus the match expenses amounted to another £2,500, of which no less than £1,268 was expended in travelling, training, and hotel expenses. And yet when we look at the record of the team we find that out of 53 matches, the first eleven only won 22 and lost 20, while they scored but 109 goals against 85. Surely the first team men must blush when they see what the second eleven accomplished, for they won 26 out of 39 matches, and were only beaten on four occasions, while they scored 144 goals against 44. Had these records been reversed I should have said that Aston Villa had received value for their money, but as it is I am like the Scotchman who had his doubts. The North End team of Preston had a total revenue of £5,043, which it will be seen is not even half that of Aston Villa. Their players' and trainer's wages come to £2,874. Poor Preston are in a poor way, and what is more, they are in poor company for the next twelve months. But I suppose Preston North End have done as much to build up Aston Villa as any human force in this world. The one is affluent and moving in aristocratic circles, the other has not too much money, and necessity has made it acquainted with strange playfellows. It was ever thus in this world!
London, 22nd June.

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